

West Virginia:

Smoke Detectors at a Glance

July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008



Residential Smoke Detector Presence

	Number of Residential Fires**	Percentage of Total Residential Fires
Detectors present	679	26%
No detector present	889	34%
Undetermined	1045	40%

Residential Smoke Detector Operation

	Number of Residential Fires	Percentage of Total Residential Fires
Operated	406	60%
Failed to operate	76	11%
Fire too small to detect	71	10%
Undetermined	126	19%

**** The actual number of reported residential fires for this period is 3,204.** The total of the smoke detector presence numbers above, if added, shows 2,613. This discrepancy is due to the Structure Fire by Property Use report, which counts all the 100 series incident type codes and then sorts by Property Use, including Confined Fires. The Tally Reports for Smoke Detector Presence and Operation would therefore exclude those confined fires (Incident type codes 113-118) since the Structure Module is not typically completed for confined fires.

Smoke detector data comprises a mandatory field in NFIRS 5.0.

All data is based on NFIRS statistics as submitted by the state's 447 fire departments.

The State of West Virginia utilizes the NFIRS Version 5.0, Federal Client Tool to coordinate fire and non-fire data.

West Virginia State Fire Marshal's Office
Public Education Division
(304) 558-2191, Ext. 53223